

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated August 19, 2009. Applicant has amended the application as set forth above. All the features of the amended claims are fully supported by the originally filed application. Thus, the amendments do not add new matter to the application. Upon the entry of the amendments, Claim 1-3 are pending in this application. Applicant respectfully requests the entry of the amendments and reconsideration of the application.

Discussion of Objections to Drawings

The Examiner objected to the Drawings because of reference numeral “106” not mentioned in the description. Applicant has amended the specification to include reference numeral “106” in the description.

Discussion of Objections to Specification

The Examiner objected to the Specification because of informality issues. In response, Applicant has amended the Specification to meet the written requirements.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In response, Applicant has amended Claims 1-3 properly, and canceled Claim 4 without prejudice as described in the Claim Amendments. Especially, Claim 1 is amended to show clearly what the invention is about by introducing dentation to the structure of Claim 1.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected Claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Michelson (US 298,994) in view of Weir Jr. (US 744,988); Claim 3 over Michelson in view of Weir Jr. and further in view of Bierbaum et al. (US 5,332,392); and Claim 4 over Michelson in view of Weir and further in view of Godlin (US 873,855).

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner. However, in order to clarify the inventive features, Applicant has amended Claim 1.

Claim 1 of the Instant Application (*Emphasis added*)

A portable dental care stand comprising:
a cover part having a handle formed at an upper portion;
a machine part connected with the cover part using a separable hinge, ~~and~~ the machine part having:
 an upper plate covering an upper portion of a rectangular housing, which is opened at the upper portion and a lower portion,
 a rectangular machine chamber having an opened upper portion and disposed at predetermined removed portion of the upper plate,
 an operation panel having a predetermined slanting surface and installed at the opened upper portion of the machine chamber, the operation panel having a plurality of operation buttons at the slanting surface, and
 a mount installed using a sliding member at a lower end of the machine chamber;
a rectangular box part having an opened upper portion and connected with the machine part using a spreadable or foldable leg part; and
hooks installed at a front and rear of the machine part and the box part to couple the machine part with the box part,
wherein the leg part is installed at both inner side surfaces of the machine part and has a pair of circular rods having steps formed with a size getting small, the circular rods are connected a connection bar, and the connection bar is connected with a leg part handle with a spring interposed there between, such that the machine part is supported in a lifted-up position above the box part, and
wherein if the leg part handle is pulled up, the leg part collapses such that the machine part is coupled with the box part.

The present invention is directed to a portable dental care stand in which a dental care equipment can be easily and safely moved, making it possible to perform the dental care even in

an outside environment. For the purposes, the portable dental care stand according to the present invention comprises a cover part (150), a machine part (100), a rectangular box part (200), and hooks (201). (See Figs. 1-4)

In particular, the leg part (300) is installed at both inner side surfaces of the machine part (100), and the leg part (300) has a pair of circular rods (302) having steps formed with a size getting small. Also the circular rods (302) are connected by a connection bar (303), and the connection bar (303) is connected with a leg part handle (301) with a spring (304) being interposed therebetween. Therefore, if the leg part handle (301) is pulled, a ball (not shown) supporting an end of the circular rod (302) is removed to spread out the leg part (300). Then, the leg part (300) collapses such that the machine part (100) is coupled with the box part (200). With the structures of the present invention, the portable dental care stand has two states as shown in Figs. 1 and 2; a collapsed and closed state (Fig. 1) and an expanded and lifted-up state (Fig. 2) (See paragraphs [0024] and [0035]; Figs. 2 and 3)

In contrast, Michelson et al. disclose a trunk tray, which includes a trunk (A), trays (B), and movable folding legs (C). And, the Examiner stated that Michelson discloses a machine part (B) and a rectangular box (A), and foldable legs (C). Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner. First, the trays (B) of Michelson is *not* lifted up above the trunk (A) as in the present invention. The top tray is partly raised and supported in a position in Fig. 1 to reach inside, but it is not supported in an elevated position as in the present invention. The trays (B) are just for organizing the big space in the trunk (A).

Whereas, in the present invention, the machine part (100) is lifted up above the box part (200) to provide an elevated position for the machine part and an extra space between the machine part (100) and the box part (200) for the supply lines etc. (122).

Also, the movable foldable legs (C) of Michelson is totally different from the leg part (300) of the present invention. Michelson's foldable legs (C) are folded sideways as shown in Fig. 4, while the leg part (300) of the present invention is spreadable and foldable vertically as shown in Figs. 2 and 4.

Furthermore, as the Examiner pointed out correctly, Michelson does *not* disclose anything such as a mount (120) installed using a sliding member (123) at a lower end of the machine chamber (103).

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner in that Weir discloses the mount. Applicant submits that Weir's latch (8) is not slantingly installed using the drawers (4). Furthermore, Michelson and Weir does *not* disclose anything like a machine part as discussed above.

Bierbaum discloses a mount having mounting openings, but neither Michelson nor Weir does disclose a machine part to which the mount is going to be installed slantingly.

Goldin discloses collapsible legs (B), but neither Michelson nor Weir does disclose a machine part having a mount and a box part, and Goldin's collapsible legs (B) cannot be combined with Michelson and Weir to teach the inventive features of the present invention.


Therefore, Claims 1-3 are *not* obvious over Michelson in view of Weir and further in view of Bierbaum or Godlin. Withdrawal of the rejections to Claims 1-3 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-3 are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited, if required, under *the Examiner's Amendment*. If it is believed that a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of the present application, or clarify matters with regard to its allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectively submitted,

Date: November 18, 2009


James E. Bame
Regis. No. 44521
Tel: 213-384-7200
IPLA P.A.
3580 Wilshire Blvd 17th Fl.
Los Angeles, CA 90010